

CONFIDENTIAL/US OFFICIALS ONLY/SECURITY INFORMATION

25X1A

COUNTRY: Pakistan

CIA

SUBJECT: Austerity Import Policy Continued

DATE

DATE ACQUIRED: 25X1X

DATE OF
INFORMATION: Sep 53 and earlier
25X1X

25X1X

1. "The new import policy announced by the Government of Pakistan for the second half of this year belies earlier expectations of liberalization of imports. The O G L abolished last November, continues to be suspended and the total number of importable items is reduced from 215 to 184. Only 33 of the importable items are essential consumer goods, while the remaining are mainly for industrial and agricultural purposes.
2. "The import of cotton fabrics permitted from non-dollar area and Japan marks a striking change from the old policy under which no cotton fabrics were permitted. Restrictions on imports from the dollar area have been relaxed liberally in respect of drugs and medicines. The new policy indicates that Pakistan's balance of payments position is none too happy in spite of the improvement in the country's balance of trade position. This is due to marked shrinkage in the value of Pakistan's staple exports."

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TYPE ACT-DATE INFO-TFR-DATE AREA

July

are

96 53 1

20-76.2

276-36.3